

## *The Trinity*

“Trinity” is a term not found anywhere in the Bible but is a word used to describe what is apparent about God in the Scriptures. The Bible clearly speaks of God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit. But the Bible clearly presents that there is only one God. One God with 3 conversing distinct ways to reveal himself. They are co-equal and co-eternal. They each have full divinity.

*Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. (Matt 28:19)*

**What is Jesus reaffirming with this statement?** The Trinity

The term “Tri” means three, and “Unity” means one, Tri + Unity = Trinity.

This is a way of acknowledging what the Bible reveals to us about God, that God is yet three persons who have the same essence of divinity.

In our world, with our limited human experience, it is tough to understand the Trinity. But from the beginning we see God this way in Scripture.

*Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. (Gen 1:26)*

**Who is the “us” that this scripture verse is referring to?** The Trinity

**What does that tell us?** In the beginning they all were present.

Here is another example where the Trinity was present together.

*After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my dearly loved son, who brings me great joy.*

*(Matt 3:16-17)*

## **God the Father is fully and completely God.**

*God replied to Moses "I Am Who I Am" Say this to the people of Israel: I Am has sent me to you. (Ex 3:14)*

**What does I Am mean?** It is a name that describes his eternal power and unchangeable character. The God who appeared to Moses is the same God who can live in us today.

*"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone" (Deut. 6:4)*

*"I am the Lord; there is no other God". (Isaiah 45:5)*

*So what about eating meat that has been offered to idols? Well, we all know that an idol is not really a god and that there is only one God. (1 Cor 8:4)*

**What is the message conveyed in these 3 verses?** That there is only 1 God.

## **God the Son (Jesus Christ) is fully and completely God.**

*In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God and the Word was God. (John 1:1)*

*So the Word became human and made his home among us. (John 1:14)*

**What happens when you put these 2 verses together?** That Jesus is God and was present at the beginning.

*Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation. (Colossians 1:15)*

*No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us. (John 1:18).*

*The Father and I are one. (John 10:30)*

*For when you see me, you are also seeing the one who sent me. (John 12:45)*

*Jesus replied "I have been with you all this time, Philip and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? Don't you believe I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me and does his work through me. (John 14:9-10)*

What was Jesus telling Phillip? That to know Jesus is to know God. The search for God ends in Christ.

*You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God. (Philippians 2:5-6)*

### **The Holy Spirit is fully and completely God.**

*And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. (Gen 1:2)*

*When Saul and his servant arrived at Gilbeah, he saw a group of prophets coming towards them. Then the Spirit of God came powerfully upon Saul, and he, too, began to prophesy. (1 Samuel 10)*

*As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David" the angel said "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. (Matt 1:20)*

*The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy and he will be called the Son of God". (Luke 1:35)*

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit who leads into all truth. The world can not receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. (John 14:16-17)*

*But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative - that is the Holy Spirit - he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. (John 14:26)*

*But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all. (Romans 8:9)*

**What does this verses mean?** To be a Christian, belong to Christ, you must have the Holy Spirit living within you.

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